

Task Force on School Facilities Recommendations

(Note: Page numbers reference the Task Force's Report)

Training and Professional Development

- Require certification for architects, engineers and construction managers for planning and building assessment that is to include maintenance best practices (page 9).
- Require continuing education for architects, engineers, construction managers and facilitators (page 9).
- Require professional development for school leaders, including superintendents, local school board members, facility officers and finance officers (page 9).
- Require districts to have a certified facilities officer (page 20).

Use of Restricted Funds Capital Outlay and FSPK

- Capital Outlay may be used for Tier 2B Maintenance with KDE approval (replacement of components of a useful system that is expected to operate for at least three more years) (page 19).
- Capital Outlay and FSPK may be used for Tier 3 Capital Replacement (one major building system) (page 19).
- Upon approval of the Commissioner, Capital Outlay may be used for maintenance without forfeiting the district's participation in SFCC. Maintenance does not include property insurance (page 20).
- Allow land for new schools or modifications to existing schools to be purchased with restricted cash for projects noted on the District Facility Plan for use in the next eight years. Land will not be counted in the calculation of need (page 22).

Taxing Authority

- KRS 157.621 amended to remove the sunset provision of the growth nickel (page 14).
- KRS 160.470 amended to provide that no local board of education shall have to levy a tax rate lower than the rate set by the board in the previous year.
- Increase 5 cent FSPK to 10 cents and provide equalization. Require all districts to levy. Those already levying 10 cents would be authorized to levy another nickel, but not required. Recallable nickel and EFF funding programs to become a part of FSPK. No district shall have to lower its tax levy for facilities (page 28).

New Authority

- KDE to have authority for oversight and guidance in maintenance (page 19).

Process

- Change the date of KDE's needs determination from October 15 to December 15 (page 24).
- The calculation of local available revenue should be revised to use debt service that will be available in the future instead of a "snap shot" (page 25).

Support for SFCC Statutory Changes

- Provide a statutory program for targeted funding (page 14).
- Provide that the SFCC consider additional factors outlined on page 14 when awarding targeted funding.
- Allow SFCC funding for Priorities 1 and 2 regardless of the order in which projects are undertaken (page 23).
- SFCC escrow requirements revised to eliminate the escrow balances in capital outlay and FSPK as of June 30 each year (page 26).